

10/018968  
531 Rec'd PCT/ 26 DEC 2001  
PATENT  
2611-0166P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: WAKIMOTO, Koji et al.  
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP01/03366  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: December 26, 2001 Examiner:  
For: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING  
INFORMATION, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

December 26, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Before line 1, insert --This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP01/03366 which has an International filing date of April 19, 2001, which designated the United States of America.--

10018968-122501

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 19 continuing on page 13 and 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The information delivery system according to still another aspect of the present invention comprises a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information. A buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device comprises: a receiving unit which receives unit information from the buffer device; a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; an additional information storage unit for storing additional information that is to be added to the unit information; a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then

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transmitted; an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 6 continuing on page 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--According to the above-mentioned aspect of this invention, the receiving unit receives the unit information from a server device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to the destination of a delivery for each delivery destination; the additional information storage unit stores additional information is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information

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that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible to perform processing of source data in the buffer device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 15, with, continuing on page 23 the following rewritten paragraph:

--The information delivery system according to still another

aspect of the present invention comprises a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information. A buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device comprises: a receiving unit which receives unit information from the buffer device; a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; a link information storage unit which stores link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted; an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; a

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new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 2, with , continuing on page 25 the following rewritten paragraph:

--According to the above-mentioned aspect of this invention, the receiving unit receives the unit information from the buffer device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; the link information storage unit stores the link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds the link

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information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible for source data to be processed in the buffer device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 132, line 17, with, continuing on page 134 the following rewritten paragraph:

--Furthermore, the receiving unit receives the unit information from a server device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to the destination of a delivery for each delivery destination; the additional information storage unit stores additional information to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is

to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible to perform processing of source data in the buffer device. Therefore, the effects are achieved of being able to perform processing on source data that is appropriate to each destination of a delivery by the buffer device as well as to provide a stable information delivery service, while being able to perform the source data processing service independently of the source data providing service.--



Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 137, line 25, with, continuing on page 139 the following rewritten paragraph:

--Moreover, the receiving unit receives the unit information from the buffer device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; the link information storage unit stores the link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the

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new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible for source data to be processed in the buffer device. Therefore, the effects are achieved of being able to perform processing on source data that is appropriate to each destination of a delivery by the buffer device as well as to provide a stable information delivery service, while being able to perform the source data processing service independently of the source data providing service.--

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 12-20 and 22-30 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) An information delivery system comprising:

a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a plurality of buffer devices, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer devices an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information, wherein a buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device includes,

a receiving unit which receives unit information from the server device;

a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination;

an additional information storage unit for storing additional information that is to be added to the unit information;

a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored

in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted;

an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device;

a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and

a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

6. (Amended) An information delivery system comprising:

a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information, wherein a buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device includes,

a receiving unit which receives unit information from the server device;

a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination;

a link information storage unit which stores link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information;

a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted;

an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device;

a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and

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a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

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REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

The specification has also been amended to correct typographical errors.

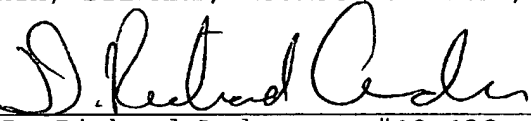
Claims 12-20 and 22-30 have been cancelled. The claims have also, been amended to correct typographical errors.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
D. Richard Anderson, #40,439

DRA/rem  
2611-0166P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning on page 12, line 19, continuing on pages 13 and 14 has been amended as follows:

The information delivery system according to still another aspect of the present invention comprises a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information. A buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device comprises: a receiving unit which receives unit information from the buffer device; a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; an additional information storage unit for storing additional information that is to be added to the unit information; a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit



information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted; an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

The paragraph beginning on page 14, line 6, continuing on page 15 has been amended as follows:

According to the above-mentioned aspect of this invention, the receiving unit receives the unit information from a server device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to the destination of a delivery for each delivery destination; the

additional information storage unit stores additional information is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible to perform processing of source data in the buffer device.

The paragraph beginning on page 22, line 15, continuing on page 23 has been amended as follows:

The information delivery system according to still another aspect of the present invention comprises a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information. A buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device comprises: a receiving unit which receives unit information from the buffer device; a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; a link information storage unit which stores link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted; an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information

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creation unit, adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

The paragraph beginning on page 24, line 2, continuing on page 25 has been amended as follows:

According to the above-mentioned aspect of this invention, the receiving unit receives the unit information from the buffer device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; the link information storage unit stores the link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information

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stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible for source data to be processed in the buffer device.

The paragraph beginning on page 132, line 17, continuing on page 134 has been amended as follows:

Furthermore, the receiving unit receives the unit information from a server device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to the destination of a delivery for each delivery destination; the additional information storage

unit stores additional information to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible to perform processing of source data in the buffer device. Therefore, the effects are achieved of being able to perform processing on source data that is appropriate to each destination of a delivery by the buffer device as well as to provide a stable information

delivery service, while being able to perform the source data processing service independently of the source data providing service.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 137, line , with 25, continuing on page 139 the following rewritten paragraph:

The paragraph beginning on page 137, line 25, continuing on page 139 has been amended as follows:

Moreover, the receiving unit receives the unit information from the buffer device; the delivery destination information storage unit stores the delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination; the link information storage unit stores the link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information; the transmission information creation unit creates the transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit; the information-unit transmitting unit adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the

unit information received by the receiving unit based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device; the new-unit attribute information creation unit creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and the new-unit attribute information transmitting unit transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device. As a result, it is possible for source data to be processed in the buffer device. Therefore, the effects are achieved of being able to perform processing on source data that is appropriate to each destination of a delivery by the buffer device as well as to provide a stable information delivery service, while being able to perform the source data processing service independently of the source data providing service.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 12-20 and 22-30 have been canceled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) An information delivery system comprising:

a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a plurality of buffer devices, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer devices an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information, wherein a buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device includes,

a receiving unit which receives unit information from the server device;

a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination;

an additional information storage unit for storing additional information that is to be added to the unit information;

a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the additional information stored in the additional information storage unit is to be added to the

unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted;

an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds additional information stored in the additional information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the additional information has been added to the another buffer device;

a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and

a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

6. (Amended) An information delivery system comprising:

a server device connected to at least one terminal device via a buffer device, wherein the server device delivers to the terminal device via the buffer device an information that is temporally continuous and includes a plurality of unit information, wherein a buffer device that transmits the unit information to an another buffer device includes,

a receiving unit which receives unit information from the

server device;

a delivery destination information storage unit which stores delivery destination information that relates to a destination of a delivery of each delivery destination;

a link information storage unit which stores link information to additional information that is to be added to the unit information;

a transmission information creation unit that, based on the delivery destination information stored in the delivery destination information storage unit as well as unit attribute information that relates to time spans and attributes of the unit information received by the receiving unit, creates transmission information that instructs that the link information stored in the link information storage unit is to be added to the unit information received by the receiving unit and then transmitted;

an information-unit transmitting unit that, based on the transmission information created by the transmission information creation unit, adds the link information stored in the link information storage unit to the unit information received by the receiving unit and transmits the unit information to which the link information has been added to the another buffer device;

a new-unit attribute information creation unit which creates new unit attribute information that corresponds to unit information transmitted by the information-unit transmitting unit; and

a new-unit attribute information transmitting unit which

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transmits the new unit attribute information created by the new-unit attribute information creation unit to the another buffer device.

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531 Rec'd PCT/IT 26 DEC 2001

PATENT  
2611-0166P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: WAKIMOTO, Koji et al. Conf.:  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: December 26, 2001 Examiner:  
For: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING  
INFORMATION, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM

DRAWING CORRECTION AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

December 26, 2001

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's authorization of the drawing corrections shown in red ink on the attached sheet(s) as follows:

add --84-- to fig. 55 above "EVALUATION VALUE DATA  
CALCULATION SECTION"

Change "94" to --93-- in fig. 66 to the first two  
terminals of server 97

No new matter has been added by these changes. These drawing changes will be implemented into formal drawings by Applicant's bonded draftsman upon approval by the Examiner and subsequent allowance of the application.

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Appl. No. New

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP



By D. Richard Anderson, #40,439

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(703) 205-8000

Attachments: Sheets of drawings 41 and 49

(Rev. 11/09/01)

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FIG.55

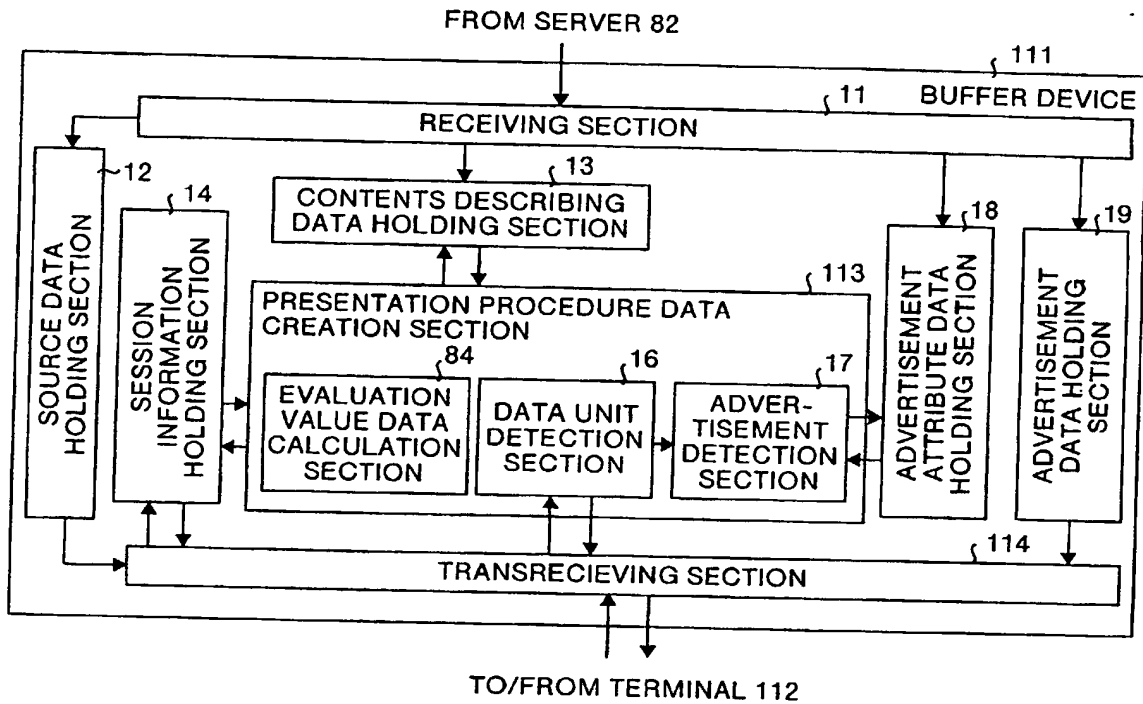


FIG.56

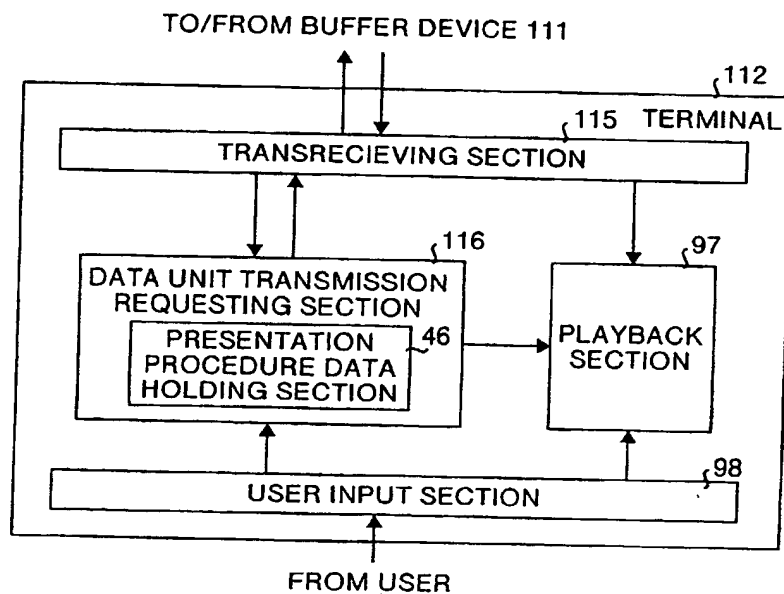


FIG.65

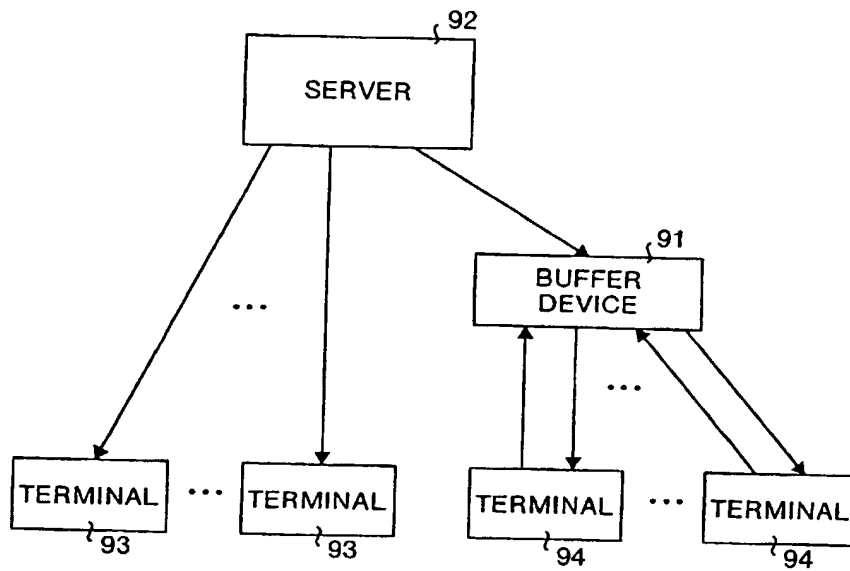


FIG.66

